Approved For Release	2007/08/29 S CIAHRDP91#00901R0007	00070012-4

27 April 1976

Director Bush Accents the Positive

By Mike Fisher K.U. Correspondent

Lawrence-Despite placard-waving pickets George Bush, CIA director, told a largely sympathetic audience last night at the University of Kansas here that although the agency has been guilty of excesses its positive assets far outweigh its negative effects.

A group of about 30 Iranian students at K.U. picketed the hall where Bush appeared, protesting CIA foreign involvement under Richard Helms, former agency director who is currently ambassador to Iran.

Bush spoke at Murphy Hall in this year's annual Vickers lecture to a growd of about 1,100. In his speech Bush didn't comment on the release of he Senate Intelligence Committee's report on the CIA.

"We have no choice but to counter the capability of our adversaries," Bush told the audience in defining the role of the CIA.

"I don't want to dwell on the abuses of the past, we must look ahead," Bush said.

Bush said there have been several incidents in the past involving the CIA that he termed "flat wrong." He emphasized that administrative action within the agency coupled with con-gressional exposure has corrected those defects.

Bush left Washington yesterday afternoon and flew to Topeka in a government jet. Earlier he had appeared before a Senate committee that voted 8 to 5 to let the whole Senate determine whether to release publicly the over-all budget for U.S. intelligence agen-

Bush strongly opposed the committee action and urged that the CIA figures be kept secret.

Last night Bush emphasized that under the 1947 act that established the CIA it is illegal for him to release those

figures.
"I don't believe giving those figures to Congress is incompatible with withholding the information from the publie," Bush said.

The CIA director emphasized that this year he has presented four separate detailed budget reports to Con-

gress.
"We cannot conduct intelligence activities in the open," Bush said, pointing out that Sen. Frank Church, head of the Senate Intelligence Committee, believed the United States should maintain a covert capability.

authorization from the Congress when implemented."

"We are living in a very tough world," Bush told the loudly applauding crowd.

Bush emphasized that the CIA is not gathering any information inside the United States now, and said that domestic activities by the agency in the past had been wrong.

Bush said the CIA's job was to professionally analyze information gathered through covert spying, overt reporting, and technological means. He emphasized the CIA was responsible for:

 guarding the nation against nuclear proliferation.

 monitoring political changes in foreign government.

 guarding against international terrorism.

 preventing the international flow of drugs.

 providing an early warning system in case of war:

mapping foreign countries.

providing data on economic boy-

 monitoring the SALT agreements In quick order Bush listed the trouble spots the agency is currently monitoring: China, Africa, Egypt, Lebanon and the Soviet Union.

Bush said that when he took office 2 1/2 months ago he didn't know what to expect. But he has become tremen-

volved in 17 hearings before congressional subcommitteess as the Congress has sought to redefine the agency's role.

Bush said the recent resignation of Richard Walters, long-time deputy director of the CLA, was the result of protocol and involved no controversy.

"Walters resigned just like a good military officer that he has been so that I might select my own staff," Bush said.

"I think the press has given him a bumrap," he added. "My goal is to see that the CIA is

second to none and that the nation is well served by the agency," Bush concluded before leaving Topeka for a flight to San Francisco.

"I would not rule out all further covert activities by the CIA," BuAppridued FoftRefease 2003/03/29th CM4RDP91-00901R000700070012-4
"We need a covert capability with full which the CIA provides for the collec-

tion and analysis of intelligence." During that period Bush has been in-